

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

INTRODUCED BY FRANKLIN

BY REQUEST OF THE CHILDREN, FAMILIES, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE GOVERNOR, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TOWARD INTRAAGENCY AND INTERAGENCY PREVENTION COORDINATION AND TO SUPPORT INTERAGENCY EFFORTS TO ASSIST MONTANANS IN NEED AND TO COMBAT THE SUBSTANTIAL EFFECTS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE, ESPECIALLY METHAMPHETAMINE USE, ON OUR SOCIETY.

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services has made proposals regarding intraagency prevention coordination for the myriad of prevention programs at the Department that involve public health and prevention activities, including alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use and abuse prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Department of Corrections have teamed together in the "Building Bridges" effort to provide transition social services to offenders who are or will be released from incarceration; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Crime Control has restructured to include subcommittees on prevention and treatment and funds many prevention programs involving youth, crime, and drug control; and

WHEREAS, ~~the former~~ Governor JUDY MARTZ held a Methamphetamine Summit to explore the policy options and strategies to reduce the production, distribution, and use of methamphetamine in Montana and energized many regions of the state to coordinate efforts at the local level and also reconvened the Montana Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Control Policy Task Force to assist in developing policy initiatives for the future; and

WHEREAS, the majority of drug control efforts lie in local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies and with the Department of Justice, and law enforcement cannot solve the problem of substance abuse, especially methamphetamine use, alone and requires coordinated education, prevention, intervention, and treatment efforts throughout society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF

1 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 (1) That all agencies in the Executive Branch, including those under the Governor, the Attorney General,  
3 and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, work together to coordinate education, prevention, and drug control  
4 efforts to enable and provide resources to local communities to combat the ill effects of abuse of legal and illegal  
5 substances and their concomitant effects on the public health and criminal justice systems.

6 (2) That Governor Schweitzer support efforts to coordinate substance abuse prevention and treatment  
7 activities within and between Executive Branch agencies and continue the efforts between the Departments of  
8 Public Health and Human Services and Corrections to bridge offenders back into the community.

9 (3) That the Director of the Department of Public Health and Human Services support the efforts of the  
10 VISTA program and the Prevention Resource Center and maintain the Prevention Connection newsletter to  
11 disseminate information directly to communities.

12 (4) That the Director of the Department of Public Health and Human Services support a position to  
13 perform intraagency, cross-division planning and coordination for prevention activities, including the prevention  
14 of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use and abuse, with other public health prevention efforts, including but not  
15 limited to the prevention of child abuse, teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, suicide, and the retail sale of alcohol and  
16 tobacco to minors.

17 (5) That the Board of Crime Control grow in its efforts to coordinate its substance abuse prevention,  
18 delinquency and crime prevention, and public safety programs with those at the Department of Public Health  
19 and Human Services and other agencies.

20 (6) THAT ALL AGENCIES INVOLVED IN PREVENTION PROGRAMS IMPLEMENT AND CONTINUE COLLABORATIVE  
21 EFFORTS WITH INDIAN TRIBES.

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